

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6603

BILL NUMBER: HB 1158

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 28, 2007

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Captive Raised Game Birds.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Wolkins

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill prohibits the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from purchasing, raising, and releasing captive raised game birds that may be lawfully hunted within 30 days after the game birds are released.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Summary of NET State Impact: The bill provides that the DNR may not:

- (1) purchase or raise, and then release; or
- (2) release;

captive raised game birds that may be lawfully hunted within 30 days after the game birds are released.

Currently, the DNR operates a “put and take” game bird program whereby the DNR releases birds and hunters shoot them. In 2007, expenses associated with the purchase of the birds—\$146,015—exceeded revenue generated—\$138,795—by approximately \$7,200. The DNR also incurs additional administrative expenses by providing the program, handling the hunters, and releasing the birds.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill would reduce expenses by at least \$146,015. The DNR spends \$146,015 each year to buy, raise, and release game birds. The DNR purchases 20,400 birds each year from two privately owned game farms. The birds are delivered almost daily to the DNR during the 9-day hunting program.

Each bird costs about \$7.16. The DNR does not breed the birds because they do not have the facilities.

Explanation of State Revenues: The DNR charges each hunter \$15 for the opportunity to take two birds. In 2007, 9,253 hunters participated, which generated \$138,795. It is possible that some hunters would only purchase a hunting license if the DNR operated the put-and-take program. The bill could reduce revenues by \$138,795.

Revenues collected from the sale of licenses are deposited in the Fish & Wildlife Fund, which is used to finance the operations of the DNR divisions of Fish & Wildlife and Law Enforcement.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: DNR

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.